AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a <u>dedicated</u> trunk line between a first mobile switching center of a first mobile communication system and a second mobile switching center of a second mobile communication system for <u>a</u> handover of a mobile communication terminal capable of communicating with both the first mobile communication system and the second mobile communication system, the method comprising:

transmitting, during the handover by the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center when both of the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center are in an invoke state for the handover, a trunk line management message over the dedicated trunk line; and

confirming, during the handover, a status of the dedicated trunk line if the first mobile switching center receives a response corresponding to the transmitted trunk line management message;

wherein ehecking a status of the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center by exchanging trunk line management messages between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center, when the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center are in an invoke state for the handover, the trunk line management messages including at least one of is a circuit reset message, a circuit interruption release message, or a trunk line test message.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transmission of the trunk line management message is performed periodically during the handoverthe exchanging the trunk line management messages further comprises receiving a response message transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first mobile switching center.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim I, wherein the trunk line messages comprise at least a circuit reset message, the circuit reset message is transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first mobile switching center when it is necessary to use the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center or in order to reproduce status information of a damaged circuit and reset the damaged circuit.
- 5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the circuit reset message includes a parameter (InterMSCCircuitID) of the internal switching center circuit ID and the response message includes a parameter (TrunkState) of the status information of the trunk line.

6-7. (Canceled)

- 8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the trunk line is reactivated by the circuit interruption release message when the circuit interruption release message has been transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first mobile switching center.
- 9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim I, wherein the trunk line test message is transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first mobile switching center in order to determine if the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center exactly operates without errors.
- 10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the trunk line test message includes parameters of an internal switching center circuit ID (InterMSCCircuitID) and a seizure type (SeizureType).
- 11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the trunk line management messages further comprise is a trunk line test release message for completing a test of the trunk line.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a <u>dedicated</u> trunk line between an first mobile switching center of a first communication system and a second mobile switching center of a second mobile communication system for <u>a</u> handover of a mobile communication terminal capable of communicating with both the first mobile communication system and the second mobile communication system, the method comprising:

transmitting, during the handover by the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center when both of the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center are in an invoke state for the handover, a trunk line management message through an interworking interoperability function unit between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center; and

confirming, during the handover, a status of the dedicated trunk line if the first mobile switching center receives a response corresponding to the transmitted trunk line management message:

wherein ehecking a status of the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center by exchanging trunk line management messages through an interworking interoperability function unit between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center, the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center being connected to the interworking interoperability function unit, the trunk line management messages including at least one of is a circuit reset message, a circuit interruption release message, or a trunk line test message.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first mobile switching center and the interworking interoperability function unit exchanges the trunk line management message[[s]] based on an ISUP protocol, and the first-second mobile switching center and the interworking interoperability function unit exchanges the trunk line management message[[s]] based on an MAP protocol, in order to check the status of the trunk line.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the transmission of the trunk line management message is performed periodically during the

handoverthe exchanging the trunk line management messages further comprises receiving a response message from the first mobile switching center or the second mobile switching center and through the interworking interoperability function unit.

- 16. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the trunk line messages comprise at least a circuit reset message, the circuit reset message is transmitted from the first mobile switching center [[and]]to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first switching center when it is necessary to use a trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center or in order to reproduce status information of a damaged circuit and reset the damaged circuit.
- 17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the circuit reset message includes a parameter (InterMSCCircuitID) of the internal switching center circuit ID and the response message includes a parameter (TrunkState) of the status information of the trunk line.

18-19. (Canceled)

- 20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the trunk line is reactivated by the circuit interruption release message when the circuit interruption release message has been transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first mobile switching center.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the trunk line test message is transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first switching center in order to determine if the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center exactly operates without errors.
- 22. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein the trunk line test message includes parameters of an internal switching center circuit ID (InterMSCCircuitID) and a seizure type (SeizureType).

23. (Currently Amended) A system <u>configured</u> to <u>establish connection</u> with of managing a trunk line between an first mobile switching center and a second mobile switching eenter for handover of a mobile communication terminal <u>capable of communicating with a first communication system and a second communication system including both a first network and a second network, the system comprising:</u>

a first mobile switching center for the first communication system;

a second mobile switching center for the second communication system; and

a network coupled to the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center and configured to provide a dedicated trunk line coupling the first mobile communication system and the second communication system for a handover of the mobile communication terminal:

wherein the first mobile switching center is configured to transmit a first trunk line management message to the second mobile switching center over the dedicated trunk line during the handover and to receive a first response message from the second mobile switching center during the handover, thereby confirming the status of the trunk line; and

wherein the second mobile switching center is configured to transmit a second trunk line management message to the first mobile switching center over the dedicated trunk line during the handover and to receive a second response message from the first mobile switching center during the handover, thereby confirming the status of the trunk line.

- 24. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first or second trunk line management message comprises at least one of a circuit reset message, a circuit interruption release message, or a trunk line test message.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the circuit reset message is used when it is necessary to use the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center or in order to reproduce status information of a damaged circuit and reset the damaged circuit.

26. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the circuit reset message includes a parameter (InterMSCCircuitID) of the internal switching center circuit ID and the response message includes a parameter (TrunkState) of the status information of the trunk line.

27-28. (Canceled)

- 29. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the trunk line is reactivated by the circuit interruption release message when the circuit interruption release message has been transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first switching center.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the trunk line test message is transmitted from the first mobile switching center to the second mobile switching center or from the second mobile switching center to the first switching center in order to determine if the trunk line between the first mobile switching center and the second mobile switching center exactly operates without errors.
- 31. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 24, wherein the trunk line test message includes parameters of an internal switching center circuit ID (InterMSCCircuitID) and a seizure type (SeizureType).
- 32. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 23, further comprising an interworking interoperability function unit which is configured to receive the first trunk line management message based on an ISUP protocol from the first mobile switching center and then to transmit the first trunk line management message based on an MAP protocol to the second mobile switching center, and to receive the second trunk line management message based on an MAP protocol from the second mobile switching center and then to transmit the second trunk line management message based on an ISUP protocol to the first mobile switching center.

33. (New) The system as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first mobile switching center is configured to transmit trunk line management messages to the second mobile switching center periodically during the handover.